WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Setting up of gas terminals

*186. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA:
SHRI YASHWANT SINHA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal under their consideration for the setting up of natural gas terminals; and

(b) if so, what are the details alongwith location thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) and (b) At present there are no terminals for handling imported gas nor is any natural gas being imported. Efforts are being made to increase LPG imports by augmenting terminal facilities.

Follow-up action on Chari Committee Report

*187. SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:
t SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1931 given in Rajya Sabha on the 13th March, 1989 regarding Chari Committee report relating to 'Issues in Coal' and state:

(a) what follow-up action has been taken by Government on the basis of the report and with what result;

(b) when the Chari Committee was set up and under what background of problems and what changes have been noticed relating to these problems since then; and

(c) whether another Committee has been set up for considering the recommendations of Chari Committee?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) The recommendations/observations made by the Special Committee of Secretaries on the report 'ISSUES IN COAL' submitted by Shri Chari are being examined by the Government.

(b) The Chari Committee was set up by the erstwhile Advisory Board on Energy (A.B.E.) in October, 1986 with a view to make a study of main issues in the Coal Sector—the single most important source of energy. The main problems related to Coal Industry at the time of study were low level of output per manshift specially in underground mines, excessive large labour force employed in the industry, mounting cumulative loss despite frequent price re-visions, shortage of coking coal, deteriorating quality of coal, low equipment utilisation etc. Since the time of study, productivity has increased although even now it is at a low level, underground productivity has also shown marginal improvement, labour force in the industry has remained practically constant while the production of coal has increased substantially; equipment utilisation has improved, loss in Coal India Ltd. has also shown a declining trend in last few years.

(c) In accordance with the procedure laid down, the recommendations made by Shri Chari in his report 'Issues in Coal' were considered by a Sub-Committee of A.B.E. The report of the Sub-Committee was considered by the Committee of Secretaries. The Committee of Secretaries have finalised their views on the recommendations made by A.B.E. except regarding organisational change in Coal India Limited.

Essentiality of Psychotherapeutic drugs

@*188. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU:
DR. (SHRIMATI) SAROJINI MAHISHI:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1646 given in the Rajya

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@Previously Starred Question 108 Transferred from the 25th July, 1989.

Sabha on the 9th May, 1989 and state :

(a) on what basis Psychotherapeutic drugs have been declared as not essential;

(b) whether Government have laid down any criteria or guidelines for this purpose;

(c) whether it is a fact that the turnover of these drugs per annum is more than rupees fifty crore;

(d) whether it is a fact that none of the drugs covered under the National Health Programmes have such a wide usage; and

(e) whether Government are taking any steps to review the situation; and if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) The Kelkar Committee recommended exclusion from price control of Psychotherapeutic drugs based on the opinion of the Directorate General of Health Services.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Sales turnover of formulations is not monitored.

(e) No such review is contemplated.

Setting up of a petrochemical complex at Visakhapatnam

*189. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 91 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 24th April, 1989 and state:

(a) what progress has so far been made for the setting up of a petrochemical complex at Visakhapatnam; and

(b) what steps are being taken to expedite the decision ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) and (b) No final decision has yet been taken on the setting up of a petrochemical complex at Visakhapatnam.

Tidal power project in the Gulf of Kutch

*190. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred *Question 2103* given in the Rajya Sabha on the 13th March, 1989 and state:

(a) whether the techno-economic evaluation has since been completed for a tidal power project in the Gulf of Kutch; and

(b) if so, what are the results thereof and what follow-up action has been taken on the basis of the evaluation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) and (b) In the course of techno-economic evaluation of the feasibility report for the tidal power project in Gulf of Kutch, it was considered necessary by the Central Electricity Authority to carry out further investigations and studies on certain aspects of the project to arrive at a final decision. These have since been taken up.

Setting up of new cement factories in Orissa

*191. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of cement factories operating in Orissa at present;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Central Government are not issuing fresh licences for the setting up of some new cement factories in the State; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) At present five cement factories in the organised sector are in production in the State of Orissa. In addition, five cement factories in the small scale sector are also reporting production.